

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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R 240701Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8052

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO, BU

SUBJECT: BULGARIAN INTERVIEW WITH PORTUGUESE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

1. RABOTNICHESKO DELO MAY 23 CARRIES PROMINENT ARTICLE BY ITS "SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN LISBON" BASED ON EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS DR. RAUL REGU.

2. ALTHOUGH BULK OF INTERVIEW DEALS WITH INTERNAL SITUATION IN PORTUGAL (INCLUDING IMPORTANCE OF FREEDOM OF PRESS, GOVERNMENT ATTITUDES TOWARD FORMER OFFICIALS, ETC.) OBVIOUS IMPORTANCE OF INTERVIEW IS REGU'S STATEMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. ACCORDING TO RABOTNICHESKO DELO REGU "AS A SOCIALIST"NFAVORS BROAD CONTACTS AMONG PEOPLES OF DIFFERENT SOCIAL SYSTEMS AND BELIEVES IN "WIDE SCALE CO-OPERATION" WITH ALL SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. ACCORDING TO INTERVIEW REGU CALLS FOR "ESTABLISHMENT OF NORMAL RELATIONS WITH ALL SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AS SOON AS

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POSSIBLE". IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT AT NO POINT DOES

REGU PRESENT THESE AS OFFICIAL VIEWS BUT RATHER HIS OWN
PERSONAL OPINIONS.

3. BULGARIAN MEDIA HAVE GIVEN EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO
PORTUGUESE EVENTS AND, WITH SOME EXCEPTIONS, HAS PAINTED
EXTREMELY POSITIVE PICTURE OF GOVERNMENT CHANGES. REGU
INTERVIEW, HOWEVER, IS FIRST SPECULATION OR COMMENTARY ON
POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS TO APPEAR
IN BULGAR PRESS.
HERZ

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